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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN

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Dr. Jeffery P. Koenings
Director
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

September 21, 2004

Dear Dr. Koenings:

On behalf of the Japanese government and the House of Councillors of Japan, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation of the kind consideration and cooperation extended to us by the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Hatchery Division in arranging a special tour of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery facility on September 17th.

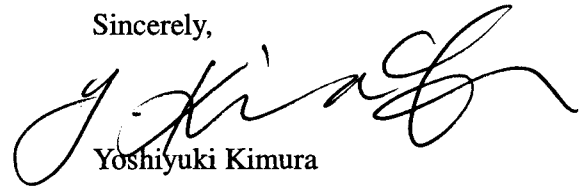
The Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle hosted a six-member delegation from the House of Councillors of Japan that was interested in learning about Washington State's fishing industry. On Friday the 10th, the consulate contacted the hatchery division's office in Olympia to discuss the possibility of touring its Issaquah facility. From that point on, the manager of the Hatchery Division, John Kerwin, personally took on the task of facilitating our visit and making sure that all of our needs were met. It should be noted that all of these arrangements were done for us on a very short notice at a time when I'm sure your staff is very busy.

Mr. Kerwin met with me, and other consulate staff on Monday the 13th in Issaquah to discuss the details surrounding Friday's visit. On Friday, September 17th, Mr. Kerwin, Cascade Complex manager Doug Hatfield, hatcheries division microbiologist Keisuke Yamawaki, and Washington State Senator Cheryl Pflug graciously received our delegation. Mr. Kerwin and Mr. Hatfield led a very interesting briefing and tour, and

Mr. Yamawaki provided excellent translation. It was also very thoughtful of your department to provide us with an assortment of wonderful gifts. At the end of their visit to Washington State, the delegation expressed their enjoyment and satisfaction.

The weather was perfect during that hour and the salmon were very active, but it was your staff that made the occasion very memorable and the highlight of their visit to Washington State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Y. Kimura', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Yoshiyuki Kimura

Acting Consul General

Cc: John Kerwin, Doug Hatfield, Keisuke Yamawaki